

What is claimed is:

1. A batten feeding system comprising:
 - 5 a batten dispensing system;
a first transport section configured to move battens into the batten dispensing system;
a second transports section configured to receive battens from the batten dispensing system;
 - 10 a control system configured to control operation of at least one of a batten dispensing system, first transport section and second transport section.
2. A method of forming a bundled shipping unit, comprising:
 - 15 depositing a batten onto a transport section by operation of an automatic batten dispensing system; and,
controlling the transport section to transport the batten into a banding machine.